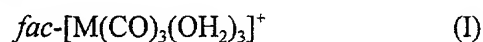


ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

The invention relates to novel aminocarboxylate ligands that are suitable for complexing with a radionuclide, and are useful as therapeutic agents and as imaging agents for diagnostic purposes. In accordance with the present invention, a method of preparing a compound of formula



wherein M is Mn,  $^{99m}\text{Tc}$ ,  $^{186}\text{Re}$  or  $^{188}\text{Re}$ ,

involves reacting a metal in permethylate form with carbon monoxide and stannous ion. The compound of formula (I) can be reacted with a ligand  $L_x$  to form a compound of the formula



wherein M is as defined above,  $L_x$  is a monodentate or multidentate ligand or a mixture of these ligands, and n is a charge of the ligand  $L_x$  increased with one + charge. The invention also is directed to novel compounds, and kits for carrying out the disclosed methods.